

CALLS ON NATION TO SAVE ITSELF

President's Message Proclaims
Need of Conserving Coun-
try's Resources.

REPORT OF NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION

A Sending It to Congress Executive
Declares Facts Contained in Docu-
ment Constitute an Imperative Call
to Action—"Permanent Welfare of
Our People Cannot Exist Save on a
Firm Foundation of Material Well-
Being"—He Defends General Course
of His Administration.

Washington, Jan. 22.—President
Roosevelt sent to congress today a
message transmitting the report of the
national conservation commission. He
prefaces the report with his own com-
ment, stating in vigorous terms his
conviction that immediate action is
needed if the rightful heritage of pos-
sibility in natural resources is to be
preserved.

The message says:
To the Senate and House of Repre-
sentatives:

I transmit herewith a report of the
national conservation commission, to-
gether with the accompanying papers.
This report, which is the outgrowth
of the conference of governors last
May, was unanimously approved by
the recent joint conference held in this
city between the national conserva-
tion commission and governors of
states, with conservation commissions
and conservation committees of great
organizations of citizens. It is there-
fore in a peculiar sense representative
of the whole nation and all its parts.

With the statements and conclusions
of this report I heartily concur, and I
commend it to the thoughtful considera-
tion both of the congress and of our
people generally. It is one of the most
fundamentally important documents
ever laid before the American people.
It contains the first inventory of its
natural resources ever made by any
nation. In condensed form it presents
a statement of our available capital in
natural resources, which are the
means of progress, and calls attention
to the essential conditions upon which
the perpetuity, safety and welfare of
this nation now rest and must always
continue to rest. It deserves and should
have the widest possible distribution
among the people.

The facts set forth in this report
constitute an imperative call to action.
The situation they disclose demands
that we, neglecting for a time, if need
be, smaller and less vital questions,
shall concentrate an effective part of
our attention upon the great material
foundations of national existence, progress
and prosperity.

Immediate Action Needed.

This first inventory of natural re-
sources prepared by the national con-
servation commission is undoubtedly
but the beginning of a series which
will be indispensable for dealing intel-
ligently with what we have. It sup-
plies as close an approximation to the
actual facts as it was possible to pre-
pare with the knowledge and time
available. The progress of our knowl-
edge of this country will continually
lead to more accurate information and
better use of the sources of national
strength. But we cannot defer action
until complete accuracy in the esti-
mates can be reached, because before
that time many of our resources will
be practically gone. It is not necessary
that this inventory should be ex-
act in every minute detail. It is essen-
tial that it should correctly describe
the general situation and that the
present inventory does. As it stands
it is an irrefutable proof that the con-
servation of our resources is the fun-
damental question before this nation
and that our first and greatest task is
to set our house in order and begin to
live within our means.

The first of all considerations is the
permanent welfare of our people, and
true moral welfare, the highest form
of welfare, cannot permanently exist
save on a firm and lasting foundation
of material well being. In this re-
spect our situation is far from satis-
factory. After every possible allow-
ance has been made and when every
hopeful indication has been given its
full weight the facts still give reason
for grave concern. It would be un-
worthy of our history and our intelli-
gence and disastrous to our future to
shut our eyes to these facts or attempt
to laugh them to scorn. The people
should and will rightly demand
that the great fundamental questions
shall be given attention by their repre-
sentatives. I do not advise hasty or
ill-considered action on disputed
points, but I do urge, where the facts
are known, where the public interest
is clear, that neither indifference nor
inertia nor adverse private interests
shall be allowed to stand in the way
of the public good.

Our Responsibility for the Future.

The great basic facts are already
well known. We know that our popu-
lation is now adding about one-fifth to
its numbers in ten years and that by
the middle of the present century per-
haps 150,000,000 Americans and by its
end very many millions more must be
fed and clothed from the products of
our soil. With the steady growth in
population and the still more rapid in-
crease in consumption our people will
hereafter make greater and not less
demands per capita upon all the natu-
ral resources for their livelihood, com-
fort and convenience. It is high time
to realize that our responsibility to the
coming millions is like that of parents
to their children and that in wasting
our resources we are wronging our de-
scendants.

We know now that our rivers can
and should be made to serve our peo-
ple effectively in transportation, but
that the vast expenditures for our wa-
terways have not resulted in maintain-
ing much less in promoting inland

navigation. Therefore let us take im-
mediate steps to ascertain the reasons
and to prepare and adopt a compre-
hensive plan for inland waterway na-
vigation that will result in giving the
people the benefit for which they have
paid, but which they have not yet re-
ceived. We know now that our forests
are fast disappearing, that less than
one-fifth of them are being conserved
and that no good purpose can be met
by failing to provide the relatively
small sums needed for the protection,
use and improvement of all forests still
owned by the government and to enact
laws to check the wasteful destruction
of the forests in private hands. There
are differences of opinion as to many
public questions, but the American peo-
ple stand nearly as a unit for water-
way development and for forest pro-
tection.

We know now that our mineral re-
sources, once exhausted, are gone for-
ever and that the needless waste of
them costs us hundreds of human lives
and nearly \$300,000,000 a year. There-
fore let us undertake without delay
the investigations necessary before our
people will be in position through state
action or otherwise to put an end to
this huge loss and waste and conserve
both our mineral resources and the
lives of the men who take them from
the earth.

I desire to make grateful acknowl-
edgment to the men both in and out of
the government service who have pre-
pared the first inventory of our natural
resources. They have made it possi-
ble for this nation to take a great
step forward. Their work is helping
us to see that the greatest questions
before us are not partisan questions,
but questions upon which men of all
parties and all shades of opinion may
be united for the common good. Among
such questions, on the material side,
the conservation of natural resources
stands first. It is the bottom round of
the ladder on our upward progress to-
ward a condition in which the nation
as a whole and its citizens as individu-
als will set national efficiency and the
public welfare before personal profit.

Industrial Democracy in Danger.

The policy of conservation is per-
haps the most typical example of the
general policies which this government
has made peculiarly its own during the
opening years of the present century.
The function of our government is to
insure to all its citizens now and here-
after their rights to life, liberty and
the pursuit of happiness. If we of this
generation destroy the resources from
which our children would otherwise
derive their livelihood we reduce the
capacity of our land to support a popu-
lation and so either degrade the stand-
ard of living or deprive the coming
generations of their right to life in
this continent. If we allow great in-
dustrial organizations to exercise un-
regulated control of the means of pro-
duction and the necessities of life we
deprive the Americans of today and of
the future of industrial liberty, a right
no less precious and vital than polit-
ical freedom. Industrial liberty was a
fruit of political liberty and in turn
has become one of its chief supports,
and exactly as we stand for political
democracy so we must stand for indus-
trial democracy.

The rights to life and liberty are
fundamental, and like other funda-
mental necessities, when once acquired
they are little dwelt upon. The right
to the pursuit of happiness is the right
whose presence or absence is most
likely to be felt in daily life. In what-
ever it has accomplished or failed to
accomplish the administration which
is just drawing to a close has at least
shown clearly the fundamental need of
freedom of opportunity for every citi-
zen. We have realized that the right
of every man to live his own life, pro-
vide for his family and endeavor, ac-
cording to his abilities, to secure for
himself and for them a fair share of
the good things of existence should be
subject to one limitation and to no
other. The freedom of the individual
should be limited only by the present
and future rights, interests and needs
of the other individuals who make up
the community. We should do all in
our power to develop and protect indi-
vidual liberty, individual initiative, but
subject always to the need of preserv-
ing and promoting the general good.
When necessary the private right must
yield, under due process of law and
with proper compensation, to the wel-
fare of the commonwealth. The man
who serves the community greatly
should be greatly rewarded by the
community. As there is great inequal-
ity of service, so there must be great
inequality of reward, but no man and
no set of men should be allowed to
play the game of competition with
loaded dice.

All this is simply good common sense.
The underlying principle of conserva-
tion has been described as the appli-
cation of common sense to common
problems for the common good. If the
description is correct, then conserva-
tion is the great fundamental basis for
national efficiency. In this stage of
the world's history to be fearless, to be
just and to be efficient are the three
great requirements of national life.

Administration's Aims Defended.

This administration has achieved
some things. It has sought, but has
not been able, to achieve others. It
has doubtless made mistakes, but all
it has done or attempted has been in
the single, consistent effort to secure
and enlarge the rights and opportuni-
ties of the men and women of the
United States. We are trying to con-
serve what is good in our social sys-
tem, and we are striving toward this
end when we endeavor to do away
with what is bad. Success may be
made too hard for some if it is made
too easy for others. The rewards of
common industry and thrift may be
too small if the rewards for other and
on the whole less valuable qualities
are made too large, and especially if
the rewards for qualities which are
really, from the public standpoint, un-
desirable are permitted to become too
large.

The unchecked existence of monopoly
is incompatible with equality of
opportunity. The reason for the exer-
cise of government control over great
monopolies is to equalize opportunity.
We are fighting against privilege. It
was made unlawful for corporations to
contribute money for election expenses
in order to abridge the power of spe-
cial privilege at the polls. Railroad
rate control is an attempt to secure an
equality of opportunity for all men af-
fected by rail transportation, and that

means all of us. The great anthracite
coal strike was settled and the pressing
danger of a coal famine averted be-
cause we recognized that the con-
trol of a public necessity involves a
duty to the people and that public
intervention in the affairs of a public
service corporation is neither to be
resented as usurpation nor permitted
as a privilege by the corporations, but,
on the contrary, to be accepted as a
duty and extended as a right by the
government in the interest of all the
people. The efficiency of the army
and the navy has been increased so
that our people may follow in peace
the great work of making this country
a better place for Americans to live in,
and our navy was sent round the world
for the same ultimate purpose. All the
acts taken by the government during
the last seven years and all the poli-
cies now being pursued by the govern-
ment fit in as parts of a consistent
whole.

Measures For Country's Good.

Our public land policy has for its
aim the use of the public land so that
it will promote local development by
the settlement of homesteaders. The
policy we champion is to serve all the
people legitimately and openly, instead
of permitting the lands to be con-
verted, illegitimately and under cover,
to the private benefit of a few. Our
forest policy was established so that we
might use the public forests for the
permanent public good, instead of
merely for temporary private gain.
The reclamation act, under which the
desert parts of the public domain are
converted to higher uses for the gen-
eral benefit, was passed so that more
Americans might have homes on the
land.

These policies were enacted into law
and have justified their enactment.
Others have failed so far to reach the
point of action. Among such is the
attempt to secure public control of the
open range and thus to convert its
benefits to the use of the small man,
who is the homemaker, instead of al-
lowing it to be controlled by a few
great cattle and sheep owners.

The enactment of a pure food law
was a recognition of the fact that the
public welfare outweighs the right to
private gain and that no man may
poison the people for his private
profit. The employers' liability bill
recognizes the controlling fact that,
while the employer usually has at
stake no more than his profit, the stake
of the employee is a living for himself
and his family.

For the Benefit of the People.

We are building the Panama canal,
and this means that we are engaged
in the giant engineering feat of all
time. We are striving to add in all
ways to the habitability and beauty of
our country. We are striving to hold
in the public hands the remaining sup-
ply of unappropriated coal for the pro-
tection and benefit of all the people.
We have taken the first steps toward
the conservation of our natural re-
sources and the betterment of country
life and the improvement of our wa-
terways. We stand for the right of
every child to a childhood free from
grinding toil and to an education, for
the civic responsibility and decency of
every citizen, for prudent foresight in
public matters and for fair play in
every relation of our national and eco-
nomic life. In international matters
we apply a system of diplomacy which
puts the obligations of international
morality on a level with those that
govern the actions of an honest gen-
tleman in dealing with his fellow men.
Within our own border we stand for
truth and honesty in public and in
private life, and we war sternly against
wrongdoers of every grade.

The obligations and not the rights of
citizenship increase in proportion to
the increase of a man's wealth or pow-
er. The time is coming when a man
will be judged not by the good things
he is getting for himself from the com-
mon store, but by how well he has
done his duty as a citizen and by what
the ordinary citizen has gained in free-
dom of opportunity because of his
service for the common good. The
highest value we know is that of the
individual citizen, and the highest jus-
tice is to give him fair play in the ef-
fort to realize the best there is in him.

Common Sense Needed.

The tasks this nation has to do are
great tasks. They can only be done at
all by our citizens acting together, and
they can be done best of all by the di-
rect and simple application of homely
common sense.
The national conservation commis-
sion wisely confined its report to the
statement of facts and principles, leav-
ing the executive to recommend the
specific steps to which these facts and
principles inevitably lead. According
ly I call your attention to some of the
larger features of the situation dis-
closed by the report and to the action
thereby clearly demanded for the gen-
eral good.

Waters.

The report says:
Within recent months it has been re-
cognized and demanded by the people
throughout the country that the water-
ways should and must be improved
promptly and effectively as a means
of maintaining national prosperity.

The first requisite for waterway im-
provement is the control of the waters in
such manner as to reduce floods and re-
gulate the regimen of the navigable riv-
ers. The second requisite is development
of terminals and connections in such man-
ner as to regulate commerce.

Accordingly I urge that the broad
plan for the development of our wa-
terways, recommended by the inland wa-
terways commission, be put in effect
without delay. It provides for a com-
prehensive system of waterway im-
provement extending to all the uses of
the waters and benefits to be derived
from their control, including naviga-
tion, the development of power, the ex-
tension of irrigation, the drainage of
swamp and overflow lands, the pre-
vention of soil wash and the purifica-
tion of streams for water supply. It
proposes to carry out the work by co-
ordinating agencies in the federal de-
partments through the medium of an
administrative commission or board,
acting in co-operation with the states
and other organizations and individual
citizens.

The work of waterway development
should be undertaken without delay.
Meritorious projects in known com-
formity with the general outlines of
any comprehensive plan should pro-
ceed at once. The cost of the whole
work should be met by direct appro-

riation if possible, but if necessary,
by the issue of bonds in small denom-
inations.

It is especially important that the
development of water power should be
guarded with the utmost care both by
the national government and by the
states in order to protect the people
against the upgrowth of monopoly and
to insure to them a fair share in the
benefits which will follow the develop-
ment of this great asset, which belongs
to the people and should be controlled
by them.

Forests.

I urge that provision be made for
both protection and more rapid devel-
opment of the national forests. Other-
wise, either the increasing use of these
forests by the people must be checked
or their protection against fire must
be dangerously weakened. If we com-
pare the actual fire damage on similar
areas on private and national forest
lands during the past year, the govern-
ment fire patrol saved commercial tim-
ber worth as much as the total cost of
caring for all national forests at the
present rate for about ten years.

I especially commend to the congress
the facts presented by the commission
as to the relation between forests and
stream flow in its bearing upon the im-
portance of the forest lands in nation-
al ownership. Without an understand-
ing of this intimate relation the con-
servation of both these natural re-
sources must largely fail.

The time has fully arrived for recog-
nizing in the law the responsibility to
the community, the state and the na-
tion which rests upon the private own-
ers of private lands. The ownership
of forest land is a public trust. The
man who would handle his forest as
he would a tract of land, and to injure
stream flow must be not only educated,
but he must be controlled.

The report of the national conserva-
tion commission says:

Forests in private ownership cannot be
conserved unless they are protected from
fire. We need good fire laws, well en-
forced. Fire control is impossible with-
out an adequate force of men whose sole
duty is fire patrol during the dangerous
season.

I hold as first among the tasks be-
fore the states and the nation in their
respective shares in forest conserva-
tion the organization of efficient fire
patrols and the enactment of good fire
laws on the part of the states.

The Report says further:

Present tax laws prevent reforestation
of cut over land and the perpetuation of
existing forests by use. An annual tax
upon the land itself, exclusive of the tim-
ber, and a tax upon the timber when cut
well adapted to actual conditions of
forest investment and is practicable and
certain. It is far better that forest land
should pay a moderate tax permanently
than that it should be sold to a specu-
lator temporarily and then cease to yield at
all.

Second only in importance to good
fire laws well enforced is the enact-
ment of tax laws which will permit
the perpetuation of existing forests by
use.

Lands.

With our increasing population the
time is not far distant when the prob-
lem of supplying our people with food
will become pressing. The possible
additions to our arable area are not
great, and it will be necessary to
obtain much larger crops from the
land, as is now done in more densely
settled countries. To do this we need
better farm practice and better strains
of wheat, corn and other crop plants,
with a reduction in losses from soil
erosion and from insects, animals and
other enemies of agriculture. The
United States department of agricul-
ture is doing excellent work in these
directions, and it should be liberally
supported.

The remaining public lands should
be classified and the arable lands
disposed of to homesteaders. In their
interest the timber and stone act and
the commutation clause of the home-
stead act should be repealed, and the
desert land law should be modified in
accordance with the recommendations
of the public lands commission.

The use of the public grazing lands
should be regulated in such ways as
to improve and conserve their value.

Rights to the surface of the public
land should be separated from rights
to forests upon it and to minerals be-
neath it, and these should be subject
to separate disposal.

The coal, oil, gas and phosphate
rights still remaining with the govern-
ment should be withdrawn from entry
and leased under conditions favorable
for economic development.

Minerals.

The accompanying reports show that
the consumption of nearly all of our
mineral products is increasing more
rapidly than our population. Our min-
eral waste is about one-sixth of our
output, or nearly \$1,000,000 for each
working day in the year. The loss of
structural materials through fire is
about another million a day. The loss
of life in the mines is appalling. The
larger part of these losses of life and
property can be avoided.

Our mineral resources are limited in
quantity and cannot be increased or
reproduced. With the rapidly increas-
ing rate of consumption the supply will
be exhausted while yet the nation is in
its infancy unless better methods are
devised or substitutes are found. Fur-
ther investigation is urgently needed
in order to improve methods and to de-
velop and apply substitutes.

It is of the utmost importance that a
bureau of mines be established in ac-
cordance with the pending bill to re-
duce the loss of life in mines and the
waste of mineral resources and to in-
vestigate the methods and substitutes
for prolonging the duration of our min-
eral supplies. Both the need and the
public demand for such a bureau are
rapidly becoming more urgent. The
it should co-operate with the states in
supplying data to serve as a basis for
state mine regulations. The establish-
ment of this bureau will mean merely
the transfer from other bureaus of
work which it is agreed should be
transferred and slightly enlarged and
reorganized for these purposes.

Conclusions.

The joint conference already men-
tioned adopted two resolutions to
which I call your special attention.
The first was intended to promote co-
operation between the states and the
nation upon all of the great questions
here discussed. It is as follows:
Resolved, That a joint committee be
appointed by the chairman, to consist of
six members of state conservation com-
missions and three members of the na-
tional conservation commission, whose
duty it shall be to prepare and present to
the state and national commissions and

through them to the governors and the
president a plan for united action by all
organizations concerned with the con-
servation of natural resources. (On mo-
tion of Governor Noel of Mississippi the
chairman and secretary of the conference
were added to and constituted a part of
this committee.)

The second resolution of the joint
conference to which I refer calls upon
the congress to provide the means for
such co-operation. The principle of the
community of interest among all our
people in the great natural resources
runs through the report of the national
conservation commission and the pro-
ceedings of the joint conference. These
resources, which form the common ba-
sis of our welfare, can be wisely devel-
oped, rightly used and prudently con-
served only by the common action of
all the people, acting through their rep-
resentatives in state and nation; hence
the fundamental necessity for co-opera-
tion. Without it we shall accomplish
but little, and that little badly. The
resolution follows:

We also especially urge on the congress
of the United States the high desirability
of maintaining a national commission on
the conservation of the resources of the
country, empowered to co-operate with
state commissions to the end that every
citizen commonwealth and every sec-
tion of the country may attain the high
degree of prosperity and the sureness of
perpetuity naturally arising in the abun-
dant resources and the vigor, intelligence
and patriotism of our people.

In this recommendation I most heart-
ily concur, and I urge that an appro-
priation of at least \$50,000 be made to
cover the expenses of the national con-
servation commission for necessary
rent, assistance and traveling expenses.
This is a very small sum. I know of
no other way in which the appropria-
tion of so small a sum would result in
so large a benefit to the whole na-
tion.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The White House, Jan. 22, 1909.

INVENTORY OF COUNTRY'S RESOURCES

Commission Tells How They
Should Be Conserved.

In forwarding to the president the
report of the national conservation
commission Gifford Pinchot, chairman
of the commission, says the entry of
the conservation movement into the
field of definite constructive work is
accomplished by the authorization of a
joint committee on co-operation, to be
composed of six members of the state
conservation commissions and three
members of the national conservation
commission, with its chairman and
secretary. This committee is to devise
ways and means for effective co-opera-
tion between all forces working for the
conservation of natural resources.

Mr. Pinchot takes occasion to recog-
nize the work of the secretary of the
commission, Thomas B. Shipp, and the
secretaries of the four sections of wa-
ters, forests, lands and minerals,
Messrs. W. J. McGee, Overton W.
Price, George W. Woodruff and J. A.
Holmes, respectively, without whose
services, together with the government
experts, the making of the national in-
ventory would have been impossible.
The five secretaries sign the report
with him.

The report of the commission is de-
voted mainly to an inventory of the
country's resources in minerals, lands,
forests and waters, closing with a sec-
tion on "national efficiency."

The mineral production of the United
States for 1907 exceeded \$2,000,000,
and contracted 85 per cent of the
total freight traffic of the country.
The waste in the extraction and treat-
ment of mineral products during the
same year was equivalent to more
than \$300,000,000. The available and
easily accessible supplies of coal in the
United States aggregate approximately
1,400,000,000 tons. At the present
increasing rate of production this sup-
ply will be so depleted as to approach
exhaustion before the middle of the
next century. The high grade iron
ores (the only iron ores available for
use under existing conditions) cannot
be expected to last beyond the middle
of the present century. The same is
true of the petroleum supply. The sup-
ply of stone, clay, cement, lime, sand
and salt is ample, while the stock of
the precious metals and of copper,
lead, zinc, sulphur, asphalt, graphite,
quicksilver, mica and the rare metals
cannot well be estimated, but is clear-
ly exhaustible within one to three cen-
turies unless unexpected deposits are
found.

The consumption of nearly all our
mineral products is increasing far
more rapidly than our population. A
stray gleam of light in the otherwise
gloomy mineral situation is seen in
the fact that while the production of
coal is increasing enormously, the
waste and loss in mining are diminish-
ing. There is urgent need of greater
safety to the miner. The loss of life
through mine accidents is appalling.
Stress is laid on the assertion that
four-fifths of the country's fire losses,
or an average of \$1,000,000 a day, could
be prevented if the precautions taken
in Europe were adopted here.

Speaking of the nation's cultivable
area, the report declares that there has
been a slight increase in the average
yield of our great staple farm prod-
ucts, but neither the increase in acre-
age nor the yield per acre has kept
pace with our increase in population.
Within a century we shall probably
have to feed three times as many
people as now, and the main bulk of
our food supply must be grown on our
own soil. We have now nearly 6,000-
000 farms, averaging 146 acres each,
but only a little more than two-fifths
of the area of continental United States
is under cultivation. The United
States can grow the farm products
needed by a population more than three
times as great as our country now con-
tains, but we must greatly increase the
yield per acre.

The greatest unnecessary waste of
our soil is preventable erosion. Second
only to this is the waste, nonuse and
misuse of fertilizer derived from ani-
mals and men. Other great causes of
loss are due to injurious mammals,
plant diseases and insects. Most of
these farm losses are preventable.

The present public land laws as a
whole do not subserve the best inter-

ests of the people. Title to the surface
of the remaining nonmineral public
lands should be granted only to actual
homesteaders.

Next to our need of food and water
comes our need of timber, declares the
report. The preservation by use under
the methods of practical forestry of
all public forest lands either in state
or federal ownership is essential to the
permanent public welfare. Effective
and immediate co-operation by pri-
vate enterprise, state ownership and
federal ownership is needed if the pub-
lic interest is to be subserved. By rea-
sonable thrift we can produce a con-
stant timber supply beyond our present
need and with it conserve the useful-
ness of our streams for irrigation, wa-
ter supply, navigation and power.

Of the 70,000,000,000 cubic feet of
water annually flowing into the sea
less than 1 per cent is restrained and
utilized for municipally and commu-
nity supply; less than 2 per cent (or
some 10 per cent of that in the arid
and semiarid regions) is used for irri-
gation; perhaps 5 per cent is used for
navigation and less than 5 per cent for
power.

The freshets are attended by de-
structive soil erosion. The soil matter
annually carried into lower rivers and
harbors or into the sea is computed at
780,000,000 tons. Soil wash reduces by
10 to 20 per cent the productivity of
upland farms and increases channel
cutting and bar building in the rivers.
The annual loss to the farms alone is
\$500,000,000, and large losses follow
the fouling of the waters and the di-
minished navigation of the streams.

Broad plans should be adopted pro-
viding for a system of waterway im-
provement extending to all uses of the
waters and benefits to be derived from
their control.

Under the heading "National Effi-
ciency" the report says:

"Since the greatest of our national
assets is the health and vigor of the
American people, our efficiency must
depend on national vitality even more
than on the resources of the minerals,
lands, forests and waters.

"Our annual mortality from tuber-
culosis is about 150,000. Stopping
three-fourths of the loss of life from
this cause and from typhoid and other
prevalent and preventable diseases
would increase our average length of
life over fifteen years.

"If we count the value of each life
lost at only \$1,700 and reckon the aver-
age earning lost by illness as \$700 per
year for grown men, we find that the
economic gain from mitigation of pre-
ventable disease in the United States
would exceed \$1,500,000,000 a year. In
addition, we would decrease suffering
and increase happiness and content-
ment among the people."

"Suffered day and night the torment
of itching piles. Nothing helped me
until I used Doan's Ointment. It cured
me permanently."—Hon. John R. Ger-
rett, Mayor, Girard, Ala. 246

The Subaltern's Retort.

When Sir Ian Hamilton was in South
Africa acting as chief of staff to Lord
Kitchener he had occasion to visit rather
a large depot of which a young offi-
cer was in command. Going through
certain papers, General Hamilton found
that these were not quite in order and
at last said rather wearily to the offi-
cer: "You know this sort of thing
will not do at all. What do you sup-
pose your brains were given you for?"
The cheerful reply, "Since I came
here I have worked sixteen hours a
day and more. I have acted as mule
teamster, porter, van guard, supply
clerk, station master, orderly, room
clerk, typist and a dozen other things.
I think if I